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Statement handed by the Japanese Ambassador (Nomura) to
the Secretary of State on December 5, 1941

Reference is made to your enquiry about the intention
of the Japanese Government with regard to the reported
movements of Japanese troops in French Indo-China. Under
instructions from Tokyo I wish to inform you as follows:

As Chinese troops have recently shown frequent signs
of movements along the northern frontier of French Indo-
China bordering on China, Japanese troops, with the object
of mainly taking precautionary measures, have been reinforced
to a certain extent in the northern part of French Indo-China.
As a natural sequence of this step, certain movements have
been made among the troops stationed in the southern part
of the said territory. It seems that an exaggerated report
has been made of these movements. It should be added that
no measure has been taken on the part of the Japanese
Government that may transgress the stipulations of the
Protocol of Joint Defense between Japan and France.